

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims replaces all previous versions and listings of claims:

CLAIM 1. (Original) A method for identifying, categorizing, and sharing preferred web site links over a communications network via a web key tool, comprising:

receiving a request from a user client system to incorporate information relating to a web site into said web key tool;

launching said web key tool;

selecting an option on a menu screen's list of options provided by said web key tool, wherein said option relates to said request to incorporate said information;

associating said information with a category;

transmitting said information to a central storage location associated with said web key tool, wherein said information is processed;

saving approved information in said central storage location;

updating related database files with respect to said approved information; and

providing access to said approved information via said communications network to authorized system users.

CLAIM 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said information relating to a web site includes:

a universal resource locator for said web site;

a description of said web site;

a web address of said web site; and

a hypertext transfer protocol link.

CLAIM 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said associating said information with a category includes:

selecting a category from a list of pre-established categories provided by said web key tool; and

creating a new category where no suitable category from said list of categories is found.

CLAIM 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said approved information is accessible to said authorized system users via a web page.

CLAIM 5. (Original) A storage medium encoded with machine-readable program code for identifying, categorizing, and sharing preferred web site links over a communications network via a web key tool, the storage medium including instructions for causing said a computer to implement a method, comprising:

receiving a request from a user client system to incorporate information relating to a web site into said web key tool;

launching said web key tool;

selecting an option on a menu screen's list of options provided by said web key tool, wherein said option relates to said request to incorporate said information;

associating said information with a category;

transmitting said information to a central storage location associated with said web key tool, wherein said information is processed;

saving approved information in said central storage location;

updating related database files with respect to said approved information; and

providing access to said approved information via said communications network to authorized system users.

CLAIM 6. (Original) The storage medium of claim 5, wherein said information relating to a web site includes:

- a universal resource locator for said web site;
- a description of said web site;
- a web address of said web site; and
- a hypertext transfer protocol link.

CLAIM 7. (Original) The storage medium of claim 5, wherein said associating said information with a category includes:

- selecting a category from a list of pre-established categories provided by said web key tool; and
- creating a new category where no suitable category from said list of categories is found.

CLAIM 8. (Original) The storage medium of claim 5, wherein said approved information is accessible to said authorized system users via a web page.

CLAIM 9. (Original) A system for identifying, categorizing, and sharing preferred web site links over a communications network via a web key tool, comprising:

- an organization, comprising:
 - a server;
 - a client;
 - a data storage device for providing a centralized storage location for said preferred web site links;
 - a network link for allowing said server, said client, and said data storage device to communicate with each other; and
 - a link to a second server, wherein said second server provides a source for said preferred web site links.

CLAIM 10. (Original) The system of claim 9, further comprising an administrative client for:

controlling access to said data storage device; and
managing operations provided by said web key tool.

CLAIM 11. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein said client system is executing a web browser software program.

CLAIM 12. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein said web key tool is executed by said organization.

CLAIM 13. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said information relating to a web site is a web link, and said associating said information with a category further comprises at least one of:

importing said web link from a currently active web site associated with said web link; and
manually entering a uniform resource locator for the link and a brief description.

CLAIM 14. (New) The storage medium of claim 5, wherein said information relating to a web site is a web link, and said associating said information with a category further comprises at least one of:

importing said web link from a currently active web site associated with said web link; and
manually entering a uniform resource locator for the link and a brief description.